

Linda Abou-Abbas

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Date of Birth: 9 October 1979

Place of Birth: Kuwait

Gender: Female

Marital status: Married Nationality: Lebanese

Education Background

• 2015 PhD in Epidemiology and Public Health, School of Public Health, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium and Doctoral school of Science and Technology Lebanese University. Thesis title: "Obesity and Psychological distress in Young Adults".

■ 2012 Lebanese University – Faculty of Medical Sciences Degree: Diploma in clinical research.

 2011 Lebanese University – Doctoral school of Science and Technology Degree: Master II Research- Epidemiology.

• 2001 Lebanese University - Faculty of Public Health Degree: Bachelor in Medical Laboratory.

1997 Collège des Soeurs des Saints coeurs

Degree: Baccalaureate in Life Sciences.

Professional Experience

- August 2022 till present: Epidemiologist and Operational research focal point at the international Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Beirut, Lebanon
- September 2012 till 2022: Senior Epidemiologist/ Epidemiological surveillance Program/ Ministry of public health Beirut- Lebanon.
- 2016 till present: Associate professor at the Neuroscience Research Center, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Lebanese University. Teaching Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Analysis of

Clinical trials and Data analysis using the "Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

- **2016 till 2021:** Associate professor at the Lebanese University/ Faculty of Public Health. Teaching Nutrition and Dietetics for Midwifery and Medical and Social work.
- 2016 till 2018: Assistant professor at the Lebanese International University. Teaching Statistics for Health Sciences (MATH-245).
- 2016 till present: Supervision of master's theses/ Neurosciences Research center-Faculty of medical Sciences.
- **2020 till present:** Head of research committee for Neuroimaging department-Neurosciences Research center/ Faculty of medical Sciences.
- **2018-2020:** Member of research committee for Neuroscience department- Neurosciences Research center/ Faculty of medical Sciences.
- 2016-2017 Member of research committee for Neuropsychology department- Neurosciences Research center/ Faculty of medical Sciences.
- 2014 till 2016: Medical writer at Clinserv International, proposal and manuscripts write up, paper editing and statistical analysis.
- 2003 2010: Director of medical center Clinics & Laboratory.

Publications

- Water pipe smoking and dependence are associated with chronic bronchitis: A case-control study". Pascale Salameh, Mirna Waked, Fabienne Khoury, Zeina Akiki, Zeina Nasser, Linda Abou Abbass, Michele Dramaix. Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal. 2012 Oct: 18 (10): 996-1004.
- Exposure to outdoor air pollution and chronic bronchitis in adults: A case-control study. Pascale Salameh, Joseph Salameh, Georges Khayat, Ashwak Akhdar, Clara Ziadeh, Sophie Azizi, Fabienne Khoury, Zeina Akiki, Zeina Nasser, Linda Abou Abbass, Danielle Saadeh, Mirna Waked. The International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. 2012; 3: 165-177.

- Obesity and Symptoms of Depression among adults in the Middle East: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. Linda Abou Abbas, Pascale Salameh, Wissam Nasser, Zeina Nasser, Isabelle Godin (2015). Clinical obesity journal 5(1), 2-11. doi: 10.1111/cob.12082.
- Outdoor air pollution and cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in Lebanon: A case-control study. Zeina Nasser, Pascale Salameh, Habib Dakik, Elias Elias, Linda Abou Abbas, Alain Levêque. Journal of environmental and public health, 2015; 810846(10):13, doi: 10.1155/2015/810846.
- Outdoor particulate matter (PM) and associated cardiovascular diseases in the Middle East: Review. Zeina Nasser, Pascale Salameh, Wissam Nasser, Linda Abou Abbas, Elias Elias, Alain Levêque (2015). The International Journal of Occupational Medicine and Environmental Health (The IJOMEH), 28(4), 641-661.
- Barriers in mammography screening: How we can overcome them. Yassmine Hassoun, Haifa Dbouk, Ehab Saad Aldin, Zeina Nasser, Linda Abou Abbas, Zeina Nahleh, Arafat Tfaili. Middle East Journal of Cancer; October 2015; 6(4): 243-251.
- Outdoor air pollution improves the validity of a screening scale of cardiovascular disease (CVD) in clinical setting. Zeina Nasser, Pascale Salameh, Elias Elias, Habib Dakik, Linda Abou Abbas, Alain Levêque. Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health. 2016; 4(3):109-14.
- Body Mass Index and Psychological Distress among Lebanese University students: Examining the moderating effect of gender. Linda Abou Abbas, Pascale Salameh, Wissam Nasser, Zeina Nasser, Isabelle Godin (2015). International Journal of Adolescence and Youth. 2016; 21(3): 332-40.
- Development and validation of a brief scale for assessing psychological distress in obese adults. Linda Abou Abbas, Pascale Salameh, Zeinab Mansour, Zeina Nasser, Elias Elias, Isabelle Godin (2016). Development and initial validation of a brief scale for assessing psychological distress in obese adults. Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health. 2016; 4(1):16-22.
- Body Image Dissatisfaction and Psychological Distress among Adults with Excessive Body Weight. Linda Abou Abbas, Zeina Nasser, Pascale Salameh, Zeinab Mansour, Lina Abou Abbas, Lamis Abou Abbas, Youssef Fares, Isabelle Godin. International Journal of Health Sciences & Research (www.ijhsr.org) 2018; 8(4):3-10.

- Impact of Excess Body Weight on Health-Related Quality of Life among Adults in Lebanon. Linda Abou Abbas, Rana El Haidari, Khodor Hassan. European Scientific Journal August 2018 /SPECIAL/ edition ISSN: 1857 7881 (Print) e ISSN 1857-7431
- National quality assessment questionnaire of physiotherapy centres in Lebanon: a pilot study. Mohamad Abou Haidar, Khalife Khalife, Linda Abou Abbas, Zeina Nasser, Jessy Chrabieh Tannous, and Joseph Yammine. Eastern Meditteranean Health Journal 2019, 25(1), 12-17. doi:10.26719/emhj.18.008.
- Validity and Reliability of the Arabic Patient Health Questionnaire-9 in Patients with Spinal Cord Injury in Lebanon. Marwa Summaka, Hiba Zein, Linda Abou Abbas, Elias Elias, Charbel Elias, Youssef Fares, Ibrahim Naim, Zeina Nasser (2019). World Neurosurgery, 125, e1016-e1022. doi:10.1016/j.wneu.2019.01.234.
- Modified Wisconsin Card Sorting Test (M-WCST): Normative Data for the Lebanese Adult Population. Sahar Rammal, Jessica Abi Chahine, Malak Rammal, Youssef Fares & Linda Abou Abbas (2019). Developmental Neuropsycholy, 44(5), 397-408. doi:10.1080/87565641.2019.1652828.
- Assessment of neuropsychiatric symptoms in dementia: validity and reliability of the Lebanese version of the neuropsychiatric inventory questionnaire. Yara Feghali, Youssef Fares, & Linda Abou Abbas (2019). Appied Neuropsycholy Adult, 1-8. doi:10.1080/23279095.2019.1670182.
- Cross-Cultural Adaptation and Validation of the Arabic Version of the Rating Anxiety in Dementia Scale. Yara Feghali, Hiba Koubaissy, Youssef Fares, & Linda Abou Abbas (2019). Clinical Gerontologist, 1-11. doi:10.1080/07317115.2019.1678083.
- Trail Making Test: Normative data for the Lebanese Adult population. Jessica Abi Chahine, Sahar Rammal, Youssef Fares & Linda Abou Abbas (2019). The Clinical Neuropsychologist. doi:10.1080/13854046.2019.1701710.
- Factors Associated with Health-Related Quality of Life in Women with Breast Cancer in the Middle East: A Systematic Review (2020). Rana ElHaidari, Linda Abou Abbas, Virginie Nerich, Amelie Anota. Cancers 12(3): 696.
- The Rapid Interactive Screening Test for Autism in Toddlers (RITA-T): Validity in a Lebanese Cross-Cultural Pilot Study. (2020) Reem Yassin, Linda Abou Abbas, Mona Krayem, Elias Salame, Roula Choueiri, Rose-Mary Boustany. International Journal of Autism & Related Disabilities: IJARD-136. DOI: 10.29011/2642-3227.000036.

- Knowledge and Practice of Physicians during COVID-19 Epidemic: A Cross-sectional Study in Lebanon. Linda Abou-Abbas, Zeina Nasser, Youssef Fares, Mohammad Chahrour, Rana El Haidari, Rola Atoui. (2020). BMC Public Health. 29;20(1):1474. doi: 10.1186/s12889-020-09585-6. PMID: 32993603; PMCID: PMC7523262
- Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of dentists towards Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Epidemic in Lebanon. Zeina Nasser, Youssef Fares, Rama Daoud, Linda Abou Abbas. (2020) BMC Oral Health, 2020. 20(1): p. 281
- Healthy Infant Born to a COVID-19 Positive Mother: A Case Report from Lebanon. Linda Abou-Abbas, Zeina Nasser, Abdelwahab El Aly, Matta Matta, Inas El Chami, Nada Ghosn, Hamad Hassan. (2020). Journal of Nursing and Practice. 3(1):221-223
- Assessment of dental anxiety and dental phobia among adults in Lebanon. Hiba Kassem El Hajj, Youssef Fares & Linda Abou-Abbas. 2021. Assessment of dental anxiety and dental phobia among adults in Lebanon. BMC Oral Health 21(1):48
- Stroop color and word test (SCWT): Normative data for the Lebanese adult population. Marwa Ktaiche M, Youssef Fares & Linda Abou-Abbas. Stroop color and word test (SCWT): Normative data for the Lebanese adult population. Applied neuropsychology Adult. 2021:1-9.
- Psychological Complications at 3 Months Following Stroke: Prevalence and Correlates Among Stroke Survivors in Lebanon. Walaa Khazaal, Maram Taliani, Celine Boutros, Linda Abou-Abbas, Hassan Hosseini, Pascale Salameh, Najwane Said. Frontiers in Psychology. 2021;12:663267.
- Piezo-surgery technique and intramuscular dexamethasone injection to reduce postoperative pain after impacted mandibular third molar surgery: a randomized clinical trial. Wissam Nehme, Youssef Fares & Linda Abou-Abbas. BMC oral health. 2021;21(1):393.
- Association between Blood and Lymphocyte Levels of Cyclosporin A and Infectious Complications in Renal Transplant Patients. Aline Milane, Linda Abou-Abbas, Lara Osmani, Naja Saber, Nadine Mefleh, Antoine Barbari. Dose-response: a publication of International Hormesis Society. 2021;19(4):15593258211042169.

- Pharmacists as immunizers in Lebanon: a national survey of community pharmacists' willingness and readiness to administer adult immunization. Dalal Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, Suzan Farhat, Hamad Hassan. Human resources for health. 2021;19(1):131.
- Exploring determinants of community pharmacist-led influenza vaccination in a Middle Eastern country: a national web-based cross-sectional study. Dalal Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, Hamad Hassan. Journal of pharmaceutical policy and practice. 2021;14(1):77.
- Phased repatriation of Lebanese expatriates stranded abroad during coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Dalal Youssef, Atika Berry, Nada Ghosn, Mahmoud Zalzali, Riad Fadlallah, Linda Abou-Abbas, & Hamad Hassan (2021). Archives of Public Health, 79(1), 206. doi:10.1186/s13690-021-00740-y
- Health-Related Quality of Life of Lebanese Women With Breast Cancer: Protocol for a Prospective Cohort Study. Rana El Haidari, Amelie Anota, Linda Abou-Abbas, & Virginie Nerich (2021). JMIR Res Protoc, 10(11), e27893. doi:10.2196/27893.
- Prevalence and risk factors of burnout among Lebanese community pharmacists in the era of COVID-19 pandemic: results from the first national cross-sectional survey. Dalal Youssef, Janet Youssef, Hamad Hassan, Linda Abou-Abbas. Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice 14, 111 (2021). https://doi.org/10.1186/s40545-021-00393-w.
- Psychometric evaluation of the Lebanese Arabic version of the Dental Fear Survey: a cross-sectional study. Hiba Kassem El Hajj, Youssef Fares, & Linda Abou-Abbas, (2021). BMC Oral Health, 21(1), 651. doi:10.1186/s12903-021-02015-y
- SARS-CoV-2 antibody seroprevalence in Lebanon: findings from the first nationwide serosurvey. Abbas Hoballah, Rana El Haidari, Ghina Siblany, Fadi Abdel Sater, Samir Mansour, Hamad Hassan & Linda Abou-Abbas (2022). *BMC Infectious Diseases*, 22(1), 42. doi:10.1186/s12879-022-07031-z
- Vaccination against influenza among Lebanese health care workers in the era of coronavirus disease 2019. Dalal Youssef, Atika Berry, Janet Youssef, & Linda Abou-Abbas (2022). *BMC Public Health*, 22(1), 120. doi:10.1186/s12889-022-12501-9

- Determinants of acceptance of Coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) vaccine among Lebanese health care workers using health belief model. Dalal Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, Atika Berry, Janet Youssef, Hamad Hassan. *PLoS One, 17*(2), e0264128. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0264128
- Feeling the burn in the era of COVID-19: cross-cultural adaptation and validation of the Arabic version of the Copenhagen Burnout Inventory among community pharmacists. Dalal Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, & Janet Youssef. J Pharm Policy Pract, 15(1), 21. doi:10.1186/s40545-022-00419-x
- Converting the existing disease surveillance from a paper-based to an electronic-based system using district health information system (DHIS-2) for real-time information: the Lebanese experience. Dalal Youssef, Ayat Yaghi, Abbas Jouny, Linda Abou-Abbas, Houssam Chamaa, Nada Ghosn. BMC Health Serv Res, 22(1), 395. doi:10.1186/s12913-022-07773-1
- Utility values and its time to deterioration in breast cancer patients after diagnosis and during treatments. Rana El Haidari, Amelie Anota, Tienhan S Dabakuyo-Yonli, Francis Guillemin, Thierry Conroy, Michel Velten, Damien Jolly, Sylvain Causeret, Jean Cuisenier, Olivier Graesslin, Linda Abou Abbas, Virginie Nerich. Qual Life Res. 2022 Oct;31(10):3077-3085. doi: 10.1007/s11136-022-03157-4. Epub 2022 May 19. PMID: 35590124.
- Predictors of neuropathic pain and related functional disability in sciatica patients: a cross-sectional study. Thuraya HajAli, Ammar Shmaisani, Youssef Fares, Linda Abou-Abbas. Int J Neurosci. 2022 May 28:1-8. doi: 10.1080/00207454.2022.2079504. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35603462.
- Utility of hematological and inflammatory biomarkers in predicting recovery in critical Covid-19 patients: Our experience in the largest Covid-19 treating center in Lebanon. Hassan Salame, Rashad Nawfal, Jad Kassem, Remy Mckey, Ali Kassem, Nayef AlKhalil, Mohamad Saleh, Ali H Abdel Sater, Ali Ibrahim, Linda Abou-Abbas, Oussaima Eldbouni, Hoda Khatoun, Bassam Matar. PLoS One. 2022 Jul 13;17(7):e0271393. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0271393. PMID: 35830459; PMCID: PMC9278762.
- Prevalence and correlates of burnout among physicians in a developing country facing multi-layered crises: a cross-sectional study. Dalal Youssef, Janet Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, Malak Kawtharani, Hamad Hassan. Sci Rep. 2022 Jul 23;12(1):12615. doi: 10.1038/s41598-022-16095-5. PMID: 35871153; PMCID: PMC9308770.

- Lebanese University Students and COVID-19: A Survey on their Related-Knowledge, Practice, and Behaviors. Zeina Nasser, Youssef Jamaleddine, Omar Ismail, Abdallah Saab, Rama Daoud, Youssef Fares, Linda Abou-Abbas. J Prev Med Hyg. 2022 Jul 31;63(2):E213-E218. doi: 10.15167/2421-4248/jpmh2022.63.2.1848. PMID: 35968076; PMCID: PMC9351411.
- Fear and death anxiety in the shadow of COVID-19 among the Lebanese population: A cross-sectional study. Zeinab Chalhoub, Hiba Koubeissy, Youssef Fares, Linda Abou-Abbas. PLoS One. 2022 Jul 27;17(7):e0270567. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0270567. PMID: 35895738; PMCID: PMC9328531.
- Knowledge and experience of physicians during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A global cross-sectional study. Rania Mansour, Rallapalli Smirithili, Baidwan HK, Mohammad Razai, Linda Abou-Abbas (2022). Knowledge and experience of physicians during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A global cross-sectional study. PLOS Global Public Health 2(7): e0000639. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0000639.
- COVID-19 mortality surveillance in Lebanon. Linda Abou-Abbas, Zeina Nasser, Mario Baaklini, Lina Cheaito, Jeanette Karout, Hawraa Sweidan, Abbas Jouni, Nada Ghosn, Hamad Hassan. Sci Rep. 2022 Aug 27;12(1):14639. doi: 10.1038/s41598-022-18715-6. PMID: 36030277; PMCID: PMC9419139.
- Practice of non-pharmaceutical interventions against COVID-19 and reduction of the risk of influenza-like illness: a cross-sectional population-based study. Dalal Youssef, Ola Issa, Maysaloun Kanso, Janet Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas. J Pharm Policy Pract. 2022 Aug 30;15(1):54. doi: 10.1186/s40545-022-00450-y. PMID: 36042506; PMCID: PMC9424835.

Conference papers

- Body Mass Index and Psychological Distress among Lebanese University students: Examining the moderating effect of gender and cigarette smoking. Linda Abou Abbas, Pascale Salameh, Wissam Nasser, Zeina Nasser, Isabelle Godin. The 20th annual LAAS (Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science), conference jointly organized by LAAS, Doctoral school of sciences and technology- Lebanese University & the National council for scientific research in Beirut, March 27-29, 2014).
- Outdoor particulate matter (PM) and associated cardiovascular diseases in the Middle East. Zeina Nasser, Pascale Salameh, Wissam Nasser, Linda Abou Abbas, Elias Elias, Alain Leveque. The 20th annual LAAS (Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science), conference jointly organized by LAAS, Doctoral school of sciences and technology- Lebanese University & the National council for scientific research in Beirut, March 27-29, 2014).
- Impact of Excess Body Weight on Health-Related Quality of Life among Adults in Lebanon. Linda Abou-Abbas, Rana El Haidari, Khodor Hassan. The 6th Mediterranean Interdisciplinary Forum on Social Sciences and Humanities, MIFS 2018, 24-25 May 2018, Barcelona, Spain.
- Assessment of Executive Functions and their Effects on Adaptive Behavior in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Linda Abou Abbas, Batoul Farhat, Ghadir ElZein, International Society for Autism Research, INSAR 2019, Annual Meeting held in Montreal, Canada on May 1-4, 2019.
- Factors associated with COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptance in Lebanon: Differences between health care workers and non-healthcare workers, Dalal Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, Janet Youssef, Ola Issa, Hamad Hassan. Conference: International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance on October 2021
- Knowledge, attitudes, and practices among Lebanese Obstetricians and gynecologists toward COVID-19 and pregnancy, Dalal Youssef, Linda Abou-Abbas, Atika Berry, Janet Youssef, Conference: The Seventh EMPHNET Regional Conference November 2021

Trainings

- Monkeypox epidemiology, preparedness and response: Intermediate training. World health organization (WHO). May 24, 2022
- Basic Training on Epidemic Intelligence and Rapid Risk Assessment held virtually on 26th-29th April 2022 (25 guided learning hours). European Center for disease prevention and Control (ECDC).
- Computer tools for outbreak investigation and multivariable analysis (EPIDATA). Mediterranean Program for intervention Epidemiology training (MEDIPIET): 2-6 February 2015 in Madrid Spain.
- Training course on control of Cholera and other Epidemic-Prone Diarrheal Diseases in Humanitarian Emergencies. World health organization, Beirut, Lebanon, 27-31 October 2014.
- Transport of Infectious Substances: Training course for shippers based on applicable international shipping regulations. World Health Organization, Beirut, Lebanon, October 2014.
- Workshop: "Program planning in public health: Using evidence to enhance effectiveness" Held on January 20-23, 2014 at the American University of Beirut-Faculty of Health Sciences- Outreach and practice Unit.
- Cours à distance: "Approche pratique de l'Analyse Multivariée en Epidemiologie" from September 10 till December 21, 2013- Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium.
- Intensive course in Multivariate Analysis applied in Epidemiology: Data Analysis and Statistical Software (STATA). From August 26 till September 6, 2013- Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium.
- Lebanese Epidemiological Association, "The VIIIth Eastern Mediterranean Regional Scientific Meeting " Modeling Incomplete Observations Workshop" held on the 24th of November 2010 at St Joseph University, Medical Campus, Beirut, Lebanon.

Languages

Trilingual: English, French, and Arabic

Computer Skills

Windows, Word, Excel, Access, Power Point, Web SPSS, STATA, Epidata, Meta-analysis

References

• "Pascale Salameh", PharmD, MPH, PhD,

Professor of Epidemiology and Accreditation Leader at the Lebanese University; Founder and Director of INSPECT-LB. Professor in Epidemiology in the Department of Primary Care and Population Health at the University of Nicosia Medical School. Expert in research direction with a diploma of Ability to Direct Research (HDR); long experience in research designing, data collection, management and advanced statistical analysis. She has more than 511 publications in peer-reviewed journals, several book chapters and hundreds of oral presentations and scientific posters to her credits, in the fields of medical epidemiology, clinical pharmacy, academic education and public health.

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• "Isabelle Godin", PhD,

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• "Nada Ghosn", MD

Nada Ghosn is a Medical Doctor, specialized in public health and social medicine, graduated from Faculty of Medicine, University of Lille, France. She is Head of the Epidemiological Surveillance Program at the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health since 2000 whilst also teaching Epidemiology and Epidemiological Surveillance at the Faculty of Public Health of the Lebanese University, and Faculty of Health Sciences of Balamand University. Dr. Ghosn is the National Focal Person for the EU project 'Mediterranean Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (MediPIET)'. Email esumohleb@gmail.com.

"Youssef Fares", MD, PhD, EMBA, FACS, FICS, FWAMS, Professor and Dean of the Lebanese University Faculty of Medicine. He is also the Founding Director of the Neuroscience Research Center, the Chairman and CEO of Al-Zahraa Hospital University Medical Center and the Founding President of the Lebanese Association of Spine Surgery. Dr. Fares is an Elected Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts (EASA) and the World Academy of Medical Sciences.

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